United Nations A/RES/73/86

General Assembly

Distr.: General
14 December 2018

Seventy-third session
Agenda item 107

Resolution adopted by the General Assembly on 5 December 2018

[*on the report of the First Committee (A/73/516)*]

73/86. Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty

The General Assembly,

Reiterating that the cessation of nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions constitutes an effective nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation measure, and convinced that this is a meaningful step in the realization of a systematic process for achieving nuclear disarmament,

Recalling that the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted by the General Assembly by its resolution 50/245 of 10 September 1996, was opened for signature on 24 September 1996,

Stressing that a universal and effectively verifiable Treaty constitutes a fundamental instrument in the field of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation and will be a major contribution to international peace and security,

Stressing also the vital importance and urgency of achieving the entry into force of the Treaty, as noted also in Security Council resolution 2310 (2016) of 23 September 2016, and affirming its resolute determination, 22 years after the Treaty was opened for signature, to achieve its entry into force,

Encouraged by the signing of the Treaty by 184 States, including 41 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, and welcoming the ratification of the Treaty by 167 States, including 36 of the 44 whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, among which there are 3 nuclear-weapon States,

Recalling its resolution 72/70 of 4 December 2017,

Recalling also the adoption by consensus of the conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions of the 2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,[1] in which the Conference,

[1] *2010 Review Conference of the Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, Final Document*, vol. I (NPT/CONF.2010/50 (Vol. I)), part I, *Conclusions and recommendations for follow-on actions*.

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inter alia, reaffirmed the vital importance of the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty as a core element of the international nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation regime and included specific actions to be taken in support of the entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming the Final Declaration adopted by the tenth Conference on Facilitating the Entry into Force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, held in New York on 20 September 2017, convened pursuant to article XIV of the Treaty, and recalling the Joint Ministerial Statement on the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, adopted at the ministerial meeting held in New York on 27 September 2018,

Noting the conference of the Youth Group of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, held in Moscow from 18 to 20 October 2017, and the "intergenerational dialogue", held in Astana from 28 August to 2 September 2018, which brought together members of the group of eminent persons established to support the article XIV process and members of the Youth Group to build and sustain momentum for the universalization and entry into force of the Treaty,

Welcoming continuing progress in the development of the Treaty's verification regime, which advances the Treaty's primary non-proliferation and disarmament objective, and the establishment of over 91 per cent of the stations planned for the International Monitoring System network,

Recognizing the civil and scientific benefits provided by the Treaty's global monitoring system,

1. *Stresses* the vital importance and urgency of signature and ratification, without delay and without conditions, in order to achieve the earliest entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty;[2]

2. *Welcomes* the contributions by the signatory States to the work of the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization, in particular its efforts to ensure that the verification regime of the Treaty will be capable of meeting the verification requirements of the Treaty upon its entry into force, in accordance with article IV of the Treaty, and encourages their continuation;

3. *Underlines* the need to maintain momentum towards the completion of all elements of the verification regime;

4. *Urges* all States not to carry out nuclear-weapon test explosions or any other nuclear explosions, to maintain their moratoriums in this regard and to refrain from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the Treaty, while stressing that these measures do not have the same permanent and legally binding effect as the entry into force of the Treaty;

5. *Condemns in the strongest terms* the six nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea since 2006 in violation of relevant Security Council resolutions,[3] urges full compliance with the obligations under those resolutions, including that the Democratic People's Republic of Korea abandon its nuclear weapons programme and not conduct any further nuclear tests, notes with encouragement the statement of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea concerning a moratorium on nuclear tests and efforts towards the dismantlement of the Punggye-ri nuclear test site, reaffirms its support for the complete, verifiable and irreversible denuclearization of the Korean Peninsula in a peaceful manner, including

[2] See resolution 50/245 and A/50/1027.

[3] Including Security Council resolutions 1718 (2006), 1874 (2009), 2094 (2013), 2270 (2016), 2321 (2016) and 2375 (2017).

through the Six-Party Talks, and welcomes all efforts and dialogue to this end, including the recent inter-Korean summits and the summit between the United States of America and the Democratic People's Republic of Korea;

6. *Urges* all States that have not yet signed or ratified, or that have signed but not yet ratified, the Treaty, in particular those whose ratification is needed for its entry into force, to sign and ratify it as soon as possible and to accelerate their ratification processes with a view to ensuring their earliest successful conclusion;

7. *Welcomes*, since the adoption of its previous resolution on the subject, the ratification of the Treaty by Thailand and the signature of the Treaty by Tuvalu, since each ratification or signature is a significant step towards the entry into force of the Treaty;

8. *Encourages* further expressions from among the remaining States whose ratification is needed for the Treaty to enter into force of their intention to pursue and complete the ratification process;

9. *Urges* all States to remain seized of the issue at the highest political level and, where in a position to do so, to promote adherence to the Treaty through bilateral and joint outreach, seminars and other means;

10. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its seventy-fourth session the item entitled "Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty".

45th plenary meeting
5 December 2018